4. If the net earnings exceed the above guaranteed return it will be shared equally by the Central Railway and M/s. Central Provinces Railway.

(d) and (e). Since there is no lease, the question of expiry does not arise.

(f) to (h). Under the agreement, the Central Government have the option recurring at intervals of every ten years to purchase the line by giving the Company a twelve months notice, in writing on 31st March, 1947 or on the 31st day of March of last year of any subsequent period of ten years. The last such option was due on 31.3.96. The option was not exercised and it was decided on financial considerations that these Branch lines may continue to be worked by the Central Railway.

Rail link to Hazaribagh and Dumaka

1519. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to connect the Divisional Headquarters, Hazaribagh and Dumaka with the rail-line;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be connected; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the 9th Five Year Plan period.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Misuse of Concessional Freight

1520. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases of misuse of concessional freight for 'sponsored' foodgrains by FCI have come to the notice of Ministry recently or during the last three years;

(b) if so, number thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such misuse by the Government agencies; and

(d) the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Konkan Railway Corporation

1521. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Konkan Railway Corporation has shown favours to some private contractors working on the Mega Railway Projects and paid advances to them even before signing the contracts;

(b) whether any enquiry has been ordered into these irregularities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). A committee of Executive Directors of the Railway Board is looking into various aspects of payment of advances and their recoveries, on the Konkan Railway project. The Committee is yet to submit its final report.

Reservation Quota in Trains

1522. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRIMATI BHAVANA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a number of representations for increasing the quota of berths at various railway stations in Gujarat for the trains directly connected with Delhi, Mumbai and Madras;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard along with the details of quota to be increased for each train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under :

	Station/Train No.	Direction
Vapi	2925 Paschim Express	Delhi
Amalsad	42 Viramgram-Mumbai Passenger	Mumbai
	9023 Janata Express	Delhi
Billimora	9022 Flying Ranee Express	Mumbai
	9012 Gujarat Express	Mumbai
Chappi	9018 Saurashtra-Janata Express	Mumbai
	9006 Saurashtra Mail	Mumbai
Jamnagar	9018 Saurashtra-Janata Express	Mumbai
	9216 Saurashtra Express	Mumbai
Dholka	9006 Saurashtra Mail	Mumbai
Dhandhuka	9006 Saurashtra Mail	Mumbai
Botad	9006 Saurashtra Mail	Mumbai
Jetpur	9006 Saurashtra Mail	Mumbai
Junagarh	9006 Saurashtra Mail	Mumbai

(c) The demands have been examined and additional quota of two sleeper class berths by 2925